

URBAN DISTRICT OF RIPLEY.

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Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF RIPLEY

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Medical Officer of Health : DR. R. A. RYAN, L.R.C.S. & P.I.
Sanitary Inspector : W. E. CLARK, P.A.S.I., A.R.San.I.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ripley Urban District Council.

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1937, which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in the Ministry of Health's Circular 1650.

We have had a fair amount of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria during the year, culminating in a rather serious epidemic in November and December. The epidemic was not confined to this area. The Schools were closed for a period, and careful supervision of the contacts helped considerably to abate the epidemic.

It is pleasing to note that our overcrowded cases under the Housing Acts, 1935 and 1936, have been satisfactorily abated. I am of opinion that this is a big step in the direction of Public Health.

The Council's provision of a Motor Ambulance has, I am sure, already proved itself, and the provision of it is a matter upon which the Council are to be congratulated.

In conclusion, I beg again to make the following recommendation :—

A Sewerage Scheme for Upper and Lower Hartshay.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. A. RYAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area : 5,411.00 acres, of which there are 20 acres under water.
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population : Mid-1937,
17,490.
Number of Inhabited Houses : End of 1937, 4,804.
Rateable Value :—

	£	s.	d.
Central Ward, Hartshay, Marchay, and Waingroves	63,800	0	0
Butterley Park Ward	835	0	0
Heage and Ambergate	14,425	0	0
Southern Portion of Crich.....	2,125	0	0
Total 	£81,185	0	0

Sum represented by a One Penny Rate :—

	£	s.	d.
Central Ward, Hartshay, Marchay, and Waingroves	265	16	8
Butterley Park Ward	3	9	7
Heage and Ambergate	60	2	1
Southern Portion of Crich.....	8	17	1
Total 	£338	5	5

This Mining District has a certain amount of unemployment, but the numbers of unemployed have shewn a definite decrease during 1937 owing to improved conditions in the coal trade.

Apart from Coal-mining there are large Engineering Works, Agricultural Implement Works, Dye Works, Refractories, Brick Works, Lime Works, and Wire Works. Also in the area are factories manufacturing hair and fibre cloths, candle wicks and plaited lace, etc., employing mainly female labour. None of the industries are prejudicial to health.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births.	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	255	137	118
Illegitimate	6	4	2

Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated resident population : 14.92.

(The Registrar-General gives the birth-rate for England and Wales as 14.9.)

Still Births :—	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	7	4	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 26.12.

Deaths :—	Total.	M.	F.
	188	94	94
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated resident population : 12.15.			
(The Registrar-General gives the death-rate for England and Wales as 12.4.)			

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
No. 30 Other Puerperal Causes	2	7.46
Total	2	7.46

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	80.46
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	78.43
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	166.67
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	20
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	2

I can again report that there has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, and there is no evidence of unemployment exercising any influence on the health of either children or adults.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

. Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health : DR. R. A. RYAN, L.R.C.S. & P.I.

Sanitary Inspector : W. E. CLARK, P.A.S.I., A.R.San.I.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Examination of clinical material, water, etc., is still carried out at the County Analyst and Bacteriological Departments.

Herewith Bacteriological Examinations carried out during the year 1937 :—

	Pos.	Neg.	Total.
Enterica :—			
Typhoid, P.-typhoid, A. & B.	—	2	2
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.	—	1	1
Diphtheria	4	9	13
Phthisis	1	29	30
Water	2	—	2
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli, Inoculation			
Test : Milk & Dairies Act	—	9	9
Miscellaneous	2	4	6
Total	9	54	63

(b) **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

It is pleasing to note that the Council now possess a Motor Ambulance. This is a Bedford machine, and has equipment for dealing with any cases necessitating removal to hospital. It is stationed at Derby Road Garage, Telephone Number 90, and is under the care of Mr. F. H. Wilkinson, and it is available both day and night.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME.**

No changes have taken place, except that Miss A. Mellor, a full-time County Midwife, is now resident in the District at No. 67, Heage Road.

(d) **TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.**

Ante-Natal Clinic.—Provision is made at the Ripley Hospital for this work to be carried out on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, from 2.0 to 4.30 p.m.

Infant Welfare Centres.—There are two Infant Welfare Centres operating in the District. These are held in the Outram Street old Schools and the Bethel Chapel, Derby Road.

School Clinic.—Medical inspection of the children attending school is made by the School Medical Officers, under the control of the County Council.

Tuberculosis Clinic.—Cases from this area are put under the medical supervision of the County Council Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. W. H. Morton, at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Grange Street, Alferton, which is open from 11.0 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m. on Fridays. Facilities are also available for radiographic examination to be carried out at the Tuberculosis Department, County Offices, Derby.

Venereal Disease.—The centre for the treatment of Venereal Disease for this area is the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary. The following is a table showing the days and hours at which the V.D. Clinic is open :—

Males.	Females.
Monday, 6 p.m.	Monday, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, 6 p.m.	Thursday, 6 p.m.
Saturday, 11.30 a.m.	

(e) **HOSPITALS.**

Ripley Hospital.—The accommodation at this hospital has not changed since my last report, *i.e.*, accommodation for 12 males, seven females, and a cot for children. Treatment is still available for medical, surgical, and dental cases arising in the district, and also for those cases requiring Violet Ray, Infra Red, and Orthopædic work, carried out by the special nurse appointed for the purpose. No arrangements have yet been made for pathological examination.

No changes have taken place in the Honorary Staff.

(f) **MATERNITY HOME.**

We are still without a Maternity Home in the district.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water.—This district has a good and constant supply of water, obtained from the Derwent Valley, Ilkeston and Heanor and Belper Water Boards. Further extensions have been made during the year to the Council's water mains to meet the needs of Building Estates.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The erection of further houses on local Building Estates has necessitated the extension of the Council's sewers. In the case of the Council's Porter House Estate an entirely new sewer was laid to drain the now completed Wright Avenue.

Rivers and Streams.—Where cases of pollution have been found properties have had their drains connected to sewers or cesspools to check the pollution.

Closet Accommodation.—Further progress has been made during 1937 with the Council's Conversion Scheme. The number of closets converted were: Pails 48, Privies 3. The total number of conversions now completed since the Scheme was first commenced is as follows:—

846 Pails; 210 Privies; 3 Slop Water Closets.

The following figures shew the approximate closet accommodation in the District at the 31st December, 1937:—

Pail Closets	1,076
Privy Closets	85
Water Closets	3,675
Trough and Slop Water Closets	Nil.
Total	<hr/> 4,836 <hr/>

Public Cleansing.—During the year the Council have purchased a new 200-gallon tumbler to replace the old one in use in the Ripley area. The new tumbler has pneumatic tyres. There have been no changes in the equipment for refuse collection, the three Shelvoke and Drewry Freighters, one of which is employed for three days in the week emptying cesspools, have to deal with the output of refuse. Cesspools are emptied regularly throughout the area.

All refuse collected in the Ripley area is now taken to the Waingroves Tip, this concentration having opened the way for salvage. The result has been the installation of a tin-baling machine at this tip. Tins are sorted from the refuse deposited and are pressed into bales of a convenient size, weighing on the average 25 pounds. So far the average number of bales per week has been 200.

FACTORIES WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1937, for the Urban District of Ripley, on the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, in connection with factories, workshops, and workplaces.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Premises.	Inspections Made.	Written Notices.
Factories	12	1
Workshops	32	3
Workplaces	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	44	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects Found.	Number of Defects Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—		
Want of Cleanliness	3	3
Want of Ventilation	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :—		
Insufficient	1	—
Unsuitable or Defective	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes.....	1	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	5	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Inspector	W. E. CLARK, P.A.S.I., A.R.San.I.
Area of District	5,411 Acres.
Estimated Number of Houses	4,804
New Houses Erected, 1937 :—	
(a) By Local Authority	40
(b) By Private Enterprise	68

No. of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Notices Served.		No. of Nuisances abated with or without Notice.
	Informal.	Legal.	

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

Defective Privies, Pail Closets, and Ashpits	35	16	8	9
Conversion of Privies into w.c.'s	24	12	3	8
Conversion of Pail Closets into w.c.'s	180	25	28	52
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets	—	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets	12	9	—	8
Provision of Additional Water Closets	9	—	—	3
Provision of Portable Ashbins	16	25	4	39
Dirty Closets	3	1	—	3

DRAINAGE :—

No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	2	1	—	1
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets, and Drains	91	19	1	46
Drains Obstructed	34	17	—	54

OTHER DEFECTS :—

Paving of Courts and Yards ...	13	3	—	7
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts, and Down-Spouts	60	11	—	51
Sinks	72	17	—	22
Insufficient Ventilation	11	7	—	6
Windows	53	6	—	25
Dampness	48	19	—	18
Water in Cellars	3	3	—	2
Water Supply	65	14	—	22
Overcrowding	155	55	—	78
Foul Condition of Houses	5	1	—	3
Offensive Accumulations	6	2	—	4
Animals Improperly Kept	1	1	—	1
Pigsties	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	12	8	—	5
Urinals	—	—	—	—
Nuisances Not Specified Above	84	33	—	47
Totals	994	355	44	514

	No. on Register.	Inspections Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	69	93	6	18
Bakehouses	9	13	2	3
Slaughterhouses	21	42	—	2
Offensive Trades	1	2	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	5	—	—
	<hr/> 101	<hr/> 155	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 23

SHOPS.

No changes have taken place in the administration of the Shops Act, 1934.

Action is immediately taken when premises are found to fall short of the sanitary requirements under the Act.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Although steps have been taken by the Council, the smoke nuisance from the Lime Works and Tarmacadam Works at Ambergrove still exists.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There is an open-air Swimming Pool at Britain Colliery, owned by the Butterley Company, Ltd. This is for the use of the Company's employees, and is also used for the Schools. At this bath the water is changed weekly, but there is no purification plant.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

In spite of the number of tenancies which have changed in the Council's Estates, due to the abatement of overcrowding under the provisions of the Housing Acts, no cases of infestation by bed bugs have arisen. There have been very few cases of beetle infested houses, and where cases have been reported immediate and stringent steps have prevented their re-occurrence.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions of the several public elementary schools in the area are very good. The water supply in all cases is from the public mains. In November and December the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria rose considerably, and as the majority were of school ages and from the Ripley Central Schools these schools were promptly closed and were disinfected throughout. I am sure this precautionary measure accounted for the immediate drop in the number of cases.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	230
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	81
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	132

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	70
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	24
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in defaults of owners...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	10
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	10

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:

(a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	7
(Licences have also been issued in respect of 28 houses.)	
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein	8
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein	47
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	3
(c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	78
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	536½
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Periodical inspection of the farms and dairies in the district has been continued throughout the year. The milk produced is in all cases of a satisfactory quality. Pasteurised milk is supplied by the Ripley Co-operative Society, who have an up-to-date Pasteurisation plant at their dairy, Nottingham Road, and inspection and sampling have shewn that the standard is entirely satisfactory.

There are several producers of Accredited milk in the district, licensed by the County Council. The Ripley Schools are still supplied with bottled milk by one of these, and this milk is now taken by the children under the supervision of their teachers.

This Council grant one bottler's licence to bottle Accredited milk.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Routine inspection of slaughter-houses, meat shops and stalls has been carried out during the year. The standard of the meat sold in this area is very good, and there has been little occasion to condemn whole carcasses or individual organs except in a few cases of tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1937.

	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	1	1	—
Scarlet Fever	96	86	1
Diphtheria	21	14	3
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)		—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	2
Pneumonia	30	4	9
Other Diseases generally notifiable:			
Erysipelas	9	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	1

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum have been notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shews the number of cases appearing on the Register of Notifications of Tuberculosis at the end of 1937:—

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Total.
23	15	38	15	9	24	62

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade. No action was taken under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

The following table shows the number of New Cases and Mortality both of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the district in 1937 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Non-				Non-	
	Pulmonary. M.	Pulmonary. F.	Pulmonary. M.	Pulmonary. F.	Pulmonary. M.	Pulmonary. F.	Pulmonary. M.	Pulmonary. F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
5	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
35	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	6	4	3	1	—	4	—	1

RIPLEY URBAN DISTRICT. CAUSES OF DEATH.

Population	17,490	
Causes of Death—	M.	F.
All Causes	94	94
1.—Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever	—	—
2.—Measles	—	—
3.—Scarlet Fever	1	—
4.—Whooping Cough	—	—
5.—Diphtheria	2	1
6.—Influenza	2	9
7.—Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8.—Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—
9.—Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	4
10.—Other Tuberculosis	—	1
11.—Syphilis	—	—
12.—General Paralysis of Insane, etc.	—	—
13.—Cancer	9	11
14.—Diabetes	2	1
15.—Cerebral Hæmorrhage	4	9
16.—Heart Disease	14	16
17.—Aneurysm	1	—
18.—Other Circulatory Diseases	7	4
19.—Bronchitis	4	—

20.—Pneumonia (all forms)	8	1
21.—Other Respiratory Diseases	2	2
22.—Peptic Ulcer	2	—
23.—Diarrhoea (under two years)	1	1
24.—Appendicitis	—	—
25.—Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—
26.—Other Liver Diseases	1	—
27.—Other Digestive Diseases	2	3
28.—Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	3
29.—Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30.—Other Puerperal Diseases	—	2
31.—Congenital Causes, etc.	11	4
32.—Senility	3	9
33.—Suicide	1	—
34.—Other Violence	8	6
35.—Other Defined Diseases	8	7
36.—Ill-defined Diseases	—	—
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Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—
<hr/>		
Deaths of Infants under one year—Total	15	6
Legitimate	14	6
Illegitimate	1	—
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Live Births—Total	141	120
Legitimate	137	118
Illegitimate	4	2
<hr/>		
Still Births—Total	4	3
Legitimate	4	3
Illegitimate	—	—
<hr/>		

